



# Wychwood Benefice

Church News 21 March, 2021

***Our Vision: To build God's Kingdom here on earth as in heaven***

## **SUNDAY 21 MARCH – 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

11.00am Idbury BCP Holy Communion Church Service

11.00am Live Zoom Service followed by coffee

We will post a recording of a service on Facebook and YouTube each Sunday. It will be available on the website from the Monday. [youtube.com/wychwoodbenefice](https://www.youtube.com/wychwoodbenefice)

There is an online service from the Diocese at 10am each Sunday.  
<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19-2/livestream/>

### **Live Zoom Service - Sundays at 11am**

Join our Zoom Sunday Service:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83839976916?pwd=Uk5DcmRJamY1V0YrMFo0czdUdGZydz09>

Meeting ID: 838 3997 6916

Passcode: Service

It is also possible to join the zoom service by phone if you don't have internet or an alternative option. If you would like some help with zoom, get in touch with Liz 01993 684286 or Anne 01993 830160.

## **PRAYERS AND READINGS**

**Collect** Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Post Communion** Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

**First Reading Hebrews 5:5-10** The author of the letter to the Hebrews writes of Christ, who was made perfect through suffering, and was appointed high priest.

**Gospel John 12:20-33** Some Gentile Greeks want to meet Jesus. Jesus' response is to say that his "hour has come" and to speak of his death in terms of his own glorification.

**Prayer List:** Hostage John Cantlie, Marian Clark, Emma Bradford, Robert Arlott, Joan Howard Drake and Wendy Cherry.

**Deanery:** St John the Baptist, Fifield. Please pray for Geoffrey, Anne, Catherine Hitchens and Mary Champness.

**RIP** David Taylor and Margaret Hebbert.

### **National Day of Reflection Tuesday 23 March 2021**

On 23 March 2021, it'll be one year since the first UK lockdown. Since then, millions of people have been bereaved, both as a result of Covid-19 and due to other causes. The restrictions we've all been living under have meant that many people have had to grieve without the comfort of having friends and family around them.

Marie Curie has organised a National Day of Reflection to acknowledge grief and loss over the last year. The national Church of England is one of several organisations supporting it.

There will be a minute's silence at 12 noon on 23 March to create a moment that shows support for the millions of people who've been bereaved. For more details on how to get involved visit the Marie Curie website:

<https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/get-involved/day-of-reflection>

### **Plans for Holy Week and Easter:**

**Palm Sunday 28 March** - see *bottom of Church News for service details*.

If you would like a palm cross, these are available in our churches now.

We will be supporting Christian Aid's Lent and Easter campaign on Palm Sunday and anyone who would like to make a donation will be able to do so. Visit their website for further details on the work CA do: <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

### **Passover Service on Zoom: Wednesday 31 March 6.30pm**

This will be an interactive service where we learn about the Jewish tradition of the "Passover meal"

You will need to book so that we can provide you with a "takeaway bag" with instructions and some of the items needed so that everyone can partake in the rituals.

We suggest that you have your meal prepared to have after the service and if anyone wishes to remain on zoom together you are very welcome to do so.

Traditionally the supper would have been roast lamb but you can prepare whatever you like. Please let us know if you would like to join us - email

[anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk) by Wednesday 24 March.

## **Maundy Thursday 1 April**

### **Holy Communion Service 10.30am in Milton Church**

## **Good Friday 2 April**

On **Good Friday** we will have our **family service** in Milton church at 9.30am, followed by hot cross buns. After the service there is the opportunity to go on a leisurely walk across the countryside to **Fifield** for a **picnic** at 12noon. We then make our way to **Idbury Church for our 2pm Hour at the Cross service**. This year groups of 6 (from multiple households) or two households will be permitted to walk together and have a socially distanced picnic. We are asking people to let us know if they would like to do the walk this year so that we can a) stagger the groups if there are too many people and b) provide groups with a copy of the map and readings. Email [office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk)

## **Easter Saturday 3 April – Easter Trail in Milton**

This is a collaborative initiative and we have agreed to be part of an Easter Family Trail running in Milton on Saturday 3 April. The trail will begin in Milton church. Families can collect a booklet for the trail and then take part in the first of 6 stops or “stations” offering a chance to experience parts of the Easter Story. We will be depicting the Last Supper and hope to offer the chance for children/families to partake in an interactive experience. More details to follow.

## **Easter Sunday 4 April**

### **9.30am MILTON Easter Communion Church Service\***

*\*Please book seats for the Easter Day Service – email [office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk)*

### **I I am Live Zoom Holy Communion Service**

## **Flowers for Easter**

We are trying to raise some funds for flowers in our churches. If you would like to donate towards flowers over Easter, perhaps in memory of someone then please get in touch or leave a donation at the Benefice Centre or email Clare in the office.

## **Cleaning in Shipton Church**

If you would be able to help with a one-off clean of Shipton church once the scaffolding is down, please get in touch with Anne.

**Coming out of lockdown** We are still awaiting further guidelines from the Church of England but are hoping to go back to our usual rota of services in our churches from May.

If you would prefer to continue with some kind of online church service please can you let us know so that we can think about what we do next. It would be helpful to have any/all views that you are happy to share with us.

For now we are continuing with one service of Communion each Sunday for the duration of the lockdown as well as the Wednesday Service in Milton. An online service will continue to be posted for those who wish to stay at home, as well as a Zoom Sunday service.

These will be simple said services, I do not wish to oblige anyone to attend who does not wish to, this includes sides-men/women or sacristans, readers, intercessors, so please can we suspend any rotas for the duration. I urge you to think seriously about attending these services, your safety must come first.

Church services for the next few weeks are on the website

<https://wychwoodbenefice.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Services-Feb-April-2021-onecol.pdf>

### **Guidelines on coming to church:**

- Please book to attend services in Fifield church. Contact Catherine, who will allocate seating 01993 831881 [catherine.lordlandry@gmail.com](mailto:catherine.lordlandry@gmail.com).
- We ask you please not to come if you (or anyone in your household) are unwell.
- Please wear a mask or covering and use hand sanitizer on entering church.
- Please adhere to the advice displayed on signs in church with regards to social distancing and where to sit.

Churches are still open for private prayer and there will be copies of the orders of service and Church News available for you to take home in the churches.

### **Sunday 28 March 2021 Palm Sunday** *N.B. Clocks go forwards*

11.00am Shipton Holy Communion Church Service

11.00am Zoom Service followed by coffee

**First Reading Isaiah 50:4-9a**

**Second Reading Philippians 2:5-11**

**Gospel Mark 14:1 – 15:47**

The Benefice Office is currently closed, Clare is working from home and will be checking emails and phone messages Mon – Fri.

Tel 01993 832467 [office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk)

Rev Geoffrey Clement [vicar@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicar@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk) 01993 832514

Rest Day Thursday

Rev'd Anne Hartley [anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk) 01993 830160